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General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
Agenda items 103, 104 and 110 (c)

Advancement of women

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women

Human rights questions: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Letter dated 25 August 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on Pakistan issued on 13 August 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Marjatta **Rasi**
Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations

99-24936 (E) 010999 010999

Annex

Statement on Pakistan issued on 13 August 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union has followed with great concern the recent political discussion of "honour killings" in Pakistani society. Such killings, motivated by "family honour", transgress the principles of human rights. The European Union condemns these killings as it condemns all such acts of violence. It urges the Pakistani Government to ensure full protection to all citizens accorded to them under Pakistan's constitution.

The European Union welcomed the statement of the delegation of the Government of Pakistan at the meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva on 14 April condemning the honour killing of Samia Sarwar in the office of advocate Hina Jillani in Lahore. The European Union urges the Government of Pakistan, in accordance with that statement and in conformity with international human rights instruments, including the international Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to initiate measures to prevent such killings, to prosecute their perpetrators and to leave no doubt about the Government's disapproval of such acts.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus and Malta and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.

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Fifty-third session
Agenda item 118
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 30 August 1999 from the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 53/36 G, in which, among other provisions, the General Assembly requested the Committee on Contributions to consider the request of Georgia for exemption under Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations as contained in document A/C.5/53/65, as a matter or priority, taking into account the views expressed by Member States, and to transmit its views, also as a matter of priority, to the General Assembly, to the extent possible, before the end of its fifty-third session.

In this connection, the Committee on Contributions undertook an in-depth review at its fifty-ninth session of the procedural aspects of the consideration of requests for exemption under Article 19 of the Charter, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/36 C. The results of that review are reflected in section IV.A of the Committee's report, as contained in document A/54/11 and also attached to document A/C.5/53/64.

Among the issues considered by the Committee was the problem of timing related to requests for exemption under Article 19 that are received after the Committee's regular session. In that connection, the Committee recalled that the General Assembly had decided to request the Committee on Contributions to hold special sessions on a number of occasions, although such sessions take some time to organize and have financial implications for the Organization. Among other options, the Committee concluded that technical and practical issues made meeting through video- or tele-conferencing impractical at present. As regards the possibility of my seeking the views of members of the Committee by correspondence, the Committee concluded that any recommendations or advice emerging from such a process would not constitute a decision of the Committee since that requires a meeting of the Committee. It also noted that consultation by correspondence can be time-consuming and does not allow for the interaction and questioning that form a regular part of the Committee's consideration of requests for exemption under Article 19.

99-24924 (E) 300899

Members of the Committee on Contributions have been informed of the provisions of General Assembly resolution 53/36 G, and have been provided with records of related meetings.

The Committee will consider the Assembly's request at its next scheduled meeting, which is its sixtieth session, to be held in New York from 5 to 30 June 2000. At that time, it will certainly consider, as a matter of priority, the request of Georgia, as mandated by the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) David **Etuket**
Chairman
Committee on Contributions

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 62
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 27 August 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to our letter dated 29 July 1999, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 28 July 1999, as well as on 4, 17, 19 and 22 August 1999.

On 28 July, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The aircraft in question violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting in a southeasterly direction.

On 4 August, one C-130, as well as two C-160 Turkish military aircraft, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The C-130 and one C-160 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting in a southeasterly direction. The second C-160 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at 1236 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou, in the occupied area of the Republic, whence it departed at 1711 hours, returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 17 August, one BE20 Turkish aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The aircraft in question violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at 0954 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic, whence it departed at 1513 hours, returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 19 August, one F-4 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The F-4 violated the national

airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting in a southeasterly direction.

On 22 August, one BE20 Turkish aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations. The aircraft in question violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at 0857 hours at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic, whence it departed at 1006 hours, returning to the FIR of Ankara.

As stated in my previous letters, these Turkish unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus are in violation of international air traffic rules, and at the same time in contravention to the provisions of Security Council resolutions on Cyprus.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to strongly protest these new provocative acts by Turkey, which demonstrate once more Turkey's blatant disregard of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and all the relevant decisions of the Organization on the question of Cyprus.

I would also like to underline that the present violations occurred after the adoption of Security Council resolution 1251 (1999), in which the Council called upon all States to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and to refrain from any action which might prejudice that sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. My Government expects that the Turkish side will show compliance with the provisions of Security Council resolutions.

Such provocative actions are not conducive to reducing tension and run counter to the initiative of the Secretary-General announced on 30 September 1998 within the framework of his Mission of Good Offices, with the goal of reducing tensions and promoting progress towards a just and lasting settlement in Cyprus.

Furthermore, the continuing overflights by the Turkish Air Force, as well as the presence of the Turkish military occupation forces on the island, constitute the underlying causes of tension in Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 62, and of the Security Council.

Sotos ZACKHEOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative